

**REMARKS**

Favorable reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments above and comments below.

Claims 1-5, 7-14, 16-18 and 20-23 are pending in the subject application.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 20, and 21 have been amended to more specifically define the claimed invention, and previously canceled claim 19 now appears as new claim 24. In particular, the claims have been amended to clarify that the detected protein is either the native form of the protein or the intact modified form of the protein. Claims 2 and 16 have been amended to provide proper Markush claim language. No new matter is added by these amendments to the claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claims 9, 10, 11, and 21 render the objections to claims 9, 10, 11, 14, and 21 moot.

It is also respectfully amended that the amendments to claims 1, 2, 12 and 16 render the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-14, 16-18 and 20-23 moot.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance, an early notification thereof being earnestly solicited.

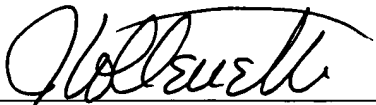
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Date: April 21, 2003

By:



Judith L. Toffenetti

Registration No. 39,048

600 13th Street, N.W. , Suite 1200  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3096  
Telephone: 202-756-8000  
Facsimile: 202-756-8087

WDC99 738286-1.062386.0015